

Nebraska Agriculture

Fact Card

A cooperative effort of the
Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Nebraska Bankers Association
Nebraska AgRelations Council
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Nebraska's Top National Rankings

- 1st Commercial livestock slaughter, all species, 2005 – 11,008,059,000 lbs. (4,993,170 MT)
Commercial red meat production, 2005 – 7,044,600,000 lbs. (3,195,376 MT)
Great Northern beans production, 2005 – 1,382,000 cwt. (62,686 MT)
- 2nd All cattle on feed, Jan. 1, 2006 – 2,600,000 head
Commercial cattle slaughter, 2005 – 7,024,400 head
Commercial cattle slaughter, 2005, live weight – 9,074,433,000 lbs. (4,116,092 MT)
Pinto beans production, 2005 – 1,982,000 cwt. (89,902 MT)
Proso millet production, 2005 – 4,250,000 bushels (149,761,500 MT)
Irrigated land, 2002 – 7,625,170 acres (3,085,864 hectares)
- 3rd All cattle and calves, Jan. 1, 2006 – 6,550,000 head
All dry edible beans production, 2005 – 3,870,000 cwt. (175,540 MT)
Cash receipts from all livestock marketings, 2004 – \$7,338,183,000
Corn for grain production, 2005 – 1,270,500,000 bushels (44,769,879,000 liters)
Grain sorghum production, 2005 – 21,750,000 bushels (766,426,500 liters)
- 4th Land in farms and ranches, 2005 – 45,700,000 acres (18,494,536 hectares)
On-farm grain storage capacity, Dec. 1, 2005 – 1,050,000,000 bushels (36,999,900,000 liters)
Off-farm commercial grain storage capacity, Dec. 1, 2005 – 691,186,000 bushels (24,356,012,268 liters)
Cash receipts from all farm marketings, 2004 – \$11,779,728,000
All hay production, 2005 – 6,945,000 tons (6,300,396 MT)
- 5th Soybean production, 2005 – 235,330,000 bushels (8,292,558,540 liters)
Commercial hog slaughter, 2005 – 7,183,000 head
Commercial hog slaughter, 2005, live weight – 1,933,290,000 lbs. (876,925 MT)
- 6th Alfalfa hay production, 2005 – 4,625,000 tons (4,195,728 MT)
Winter wheat production, 2005 – 68,640,000 bushels (2,418,736,320 liters)
All hogs and pigs on farms, Dec. 1, 2005 – 2,850,000 head
- 7th Harvested acres of principal crops, 2005 – 18,508,000 acres (7,490,084 hectares)
Table egg layers (flocks of 30,000+), Dec. 2005 – 11,853,000 layers
Cash receipts from all crop marketings, 2004 – \$4,441,545,000

Nebraska Ag Facts

- ☐ Cash receipts from farm marketings contributed nearly \$12 billion to Nebraska's economy in 2004.
- ☐ Nebraska's five leading commodities for cash receipts are cattle and calves, corn, soybeans, hogs, and wheat.
- ☐ Twenty percent of all Nebraskans are employed in farm or farm-related jobs.
- ☐ Every dollar in agricultural exports generates \$1.54 in economic activities such as transportation, financing, warehousing, and production. Nebraska's \$3.0 billion in agricultural exports in 2004 translated into nearly \$4.7 billion in additional economic activity.
- ☐ Nebraska has 48,000 farms and ranches; the average operation consists of 952 acres (385.26 hectares); average net income per farm averaged \$41,977 during the 2000-2004 period.
- ☐ In 2005, there were 11 operating ethanol plants that produced over half a billion gallons (18.9 hL) of ethanol, which was 5% more than 2004 production. Over 15% of Nebraska's corn crop goes into the production of ethanol.
- ☐ The Nebraska livestock industry accounts for approximately 62% of the state's total agricultural cash receipts each year. Nearly 55% of Nebraska farms have livestock or poultry operations.
- ☐ One American farmer/rancher produces enough food for 129 people – 95 in the U.S. and 34 abroad.
- ☐ Of every dollar spent on food in 2002, the farm value was 19 cents; 38 cents went to labor used by manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers. The remaining 43 cents paid for marketing costs such as packaging, transportation, and advertising.

Nebraska's Natural Resources

- ☐ Nebraska's farms and ranches utilize 45.7 million acres (18,494,536 hectares) – 93% of the state's total land area.
- ☐ Nebraska is fortunate to have aquifers below it. If poured over the surface of the state, the water in those aquifers would have a depth of 37.9 feet (11.55 meters). During 2002, Nebraska producers irrigated 7.6 million acres (3,075,623 hectares) of land. Of the total cropland harvested, 43% was irrigated.
- ☐ Nearly 24,000 miles (38,616 kilometers) of rivers and streams add to Nebraska's bountiful natural resources.
- ☐ There are nearly 22 million acres (8,903,119 hectares) of rangeland and pastureland in Nebraska – half of which are in the Sandhills.

(More detailed list of rankings available from USDA Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service)

To receive more information or request this card in another format, call the Nebraska Department of Agriculture at (402) 471-2341; TDD users may call the Nebraska Relay System at 800-833-7352 and ask the operator to dial (402) 471-2341.